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LANGLEY AFB, Va. — In November 2003, Brig. Gen. (Sel) Ronnie Hawkins, Air Force Director of Communications Operations, mandated annual information assurance training by all Air Force personnel: military, civilian and contractors.

To ensure everyone is trained to the same standard, the AF Information Assurance Awareness 2004 course was developed and launched at the Smartforce computer-based training Web site. This course describes the importance of the role to which users participate in the defense of our information and information systems, law, policies, terminologies, methods of exploitation and what authorization of activities are authorized/unauthorized. Network Centric Warfare,

Common Access Card, Public Key Infrastructure, malicious code, hoaxes and spam are discussed in detail, explaining both benefits and results of proper/improper network operation. Through annual recertification, unintentional threats will be reduced and our warfighters will remain able to fight.

Network security protects and prevents loss of critical communications. Interruptions or denial of network services affect our war

## How do we do that?

Complete the USAF Information Assurance Awareness Course http://usaf.smartforce.com

Live the lessons learned

Teach the principles to our fellow Airmen



fighting ability. Defense-in-depth is applied to the outer perimeter of Air Force networks with firewalls, anti-virus scanners and blocking devices. However, the primary threat is not from intentional or malicious activity, but from unintentional human error.

Our proactive enthusiasm in defending our nation from enemies both foreign and domestic is taken personally when we complete the Information Assurance Awareness CBT module. We strengthen the interior network perimeter and fulfill our Air Force's Federal Information Security Management Act reporting when we understand the value of Information Assurance. Taking the course, living the lessons learned, and sharing those principles with our fellow Airmen will enable each of us to protect and defend the United States.